

Tracy Oasis Marina
12450 West Grimes Road
Tracy, CA 95376
(209) 835-3182

October 28, 2002

Mr. Paul Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
Bay -Delta Office
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: Concerns with Preparation for the South Delta Improvement Program

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I am Korinne Flowers the owner and operator of Tracy Oasis Marina located at 12450 West Grimes Road , Tracy, California. The Tracy Oasis Marina abuts the Grant Line Canal. This letter is being written to addresses several concerns of mine surrounding the current South Delta Improvement Program (SDIP).

I first would like to state that I support the SDIP intentions to improve the water supply and conditions of the South Delta, However, I do not support the current and proposed plan for implementing the improvements. The concerns that I am having are the positioning of the barriers on the delta, the water levels of the delta, the personal currently manning the barrier located next to Tracy Boulevard, the current maps of locations of the barriers and the type of barriers used on the Delta.

In the current proposal for permeant barriers on the South Delta, my business will become inaccessible thru the Delta by recreational boat users. The placing of a Barrier on Old River, Grant Line Canal, Middle River at Victoria Canal and San Joaquin River effectively makes the position of the Tracy Oasis Marine unusable and undesirable for recreational boat users. The barriers limit the amount of the Delta that can be used by recreational boat users that launch from the Tracy Oasis Marina. The barrier on Middle River located at San Joaquin River prevents them from accessing the San Joaquin River. Additionally, the Barrier located at Middle River by Victoria Canal prevents access to popular water skiing areas such as Bacon Island. The placement of barriers on Grant Line Canal and Old River prevents the recreational user from going towards or from Discovery Bay from the Tracy Oasis Marine.

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In effect, the proposed barriers limit the area in which a recreational boat user can operate their boat for water skiing and the destination they can reach for a joy ride on the delta. The current barrier on Grant Line Canal has already shown the effect a permanent barrier would have on my business. On several occasions, recreational boaters that have launched from my business have had difficulty accessing the delta thru the Grant Line Canal. One of the main complaints has been that when they have reached the barrier, the person manning the barrier is asleep in the truck several yards away from the water. In his state, he has not heard them honking their boat horns to get his attention, so he can perform his job of placing their boat on a trailer and moving it to the other side of the barrier. On other occasions, the person manning the barrier has left his post early leaving boaters stranded on the opposite side of the barrier. This in effect makes the boater unable to reach my launch. Several of my patrons have made it clear that they will not be using Tracy Oasis Marine again for the launching of their boats.

The current barrier on the Grant Line Canal has also had the effect of rendering my launch inoperable at certain times of the day. When the tide is out, my launch is unusable for launch or recover of a boat. Additionally, the water level in my marina has gotten so low that the docks actually have ended up sitting on the bottom of the Delta. This problem has been addressed by dredging the area around the docks and the entrance way into my marina. It has not totally rectified the problem, but it is a start. The inability to launch boats during several hours each day has severely hampered the launch's use by the few patrons that still come to the Tracy Oasis Marina.

The maps displayed on the Internet are also a concern to me. The maps currently show the barrier as installed at Grant Line Canal and West Canal. This barrier is not in at that location, but rather is further down Grant Line Canal just past the Tracy Boulevard Bridge. I have had patrons state that they have not traveled to Tracy Oasis Marina via the Delta because they believe that they can not reach it from the Grant Line Canal. The maps should be corrected.

I have attended several meetings during the last seven years in regards to the improvement of the South Delta. During those meetings, I have let it be known that the current direction of the development plan is going to cost me my business. The business that is my lively hood. I have heard discussions of several different types of barriers to be used in the development. The one that would best address my concerns would be the lock barrier. If the lock barrier was to be placed at the Grant Line Canal and West Canal, recreational delta users could still access my marina, however, the lock barrier will still cause inconvenience to boaters. The boaters that are water skiing, the persons responsible for the majority of income, will have to stop and load up their skiers before proceeding. Furthermore, Bass fisherman in tournaments will have to allow for the additional time it will take to clear the barrier. The lock barrier is the best option to me at this time since it will allow for the water levels to be controlled at an increment that would allow my

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boat launch and marina facilities to be accessible. Additionally, the problems of being stranded by a lazy employee would be greatly reduced. There will still be an adverse effect on my business, specifically a reduction in income, but it will prevent me from suffering a total loss of business.

I feel that the South Delta Improvement Project can reach its goal and at the same time address my concerns so that all parties concerned are satisfied. I believe that I have delineated my concerns for the South Delta Improvement Project in this letter, however, if there are any questions in regards to my concerns please do not hesitate to contact me thru the Tracy Oasis Marine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Korinne Flowers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Korinne Flowers
Owner of Tracy Oasis Marina